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Donner Summit Public Utility District Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Fact Sheet August 2016

Water Treatment Plant

In 2016, Donner Summit Public Utility District (DSPUD) initiated a construction process to complete necessary upgrades to the water treatment plant.

The current filtration process does not meet regulations set by the State Division of Drinking Water and requires replacement.

DSPUD uses Lake Angela as its water source. The lake naturally contains algae and this algae causes a turbidity issue.

At times, treated water has contained high levels of turbidity. While high turbidity does not affect water safety, it does affect the aesthetics.

The existing filtration process cannot adequately filter out the algae from Lake Angela.

Upgrades will include:

- two new clarification/filtration basins
- improvements to the existing clearwell (improves chlorine contact time)
- replacement to the chemical feed facilities as needed

The current treatment plant provides service to over 275 customers and is built to process about 0.5 MGD (million gallons per day).

The upgraded plant will include the state mandated redundancy to have two basins with the capacity to treat 0.5 MGD of water daily. The two basin system serves as a back up in the event one basin becomes unusable for any length of time or during normal maintenance.

Water Rates

Following Proposition 218 guidelines, DSPUD notified customers 45 days in advance about a proposed rate increase in May 2016.

DSPUD's Board of Directors unanimously adopted the 12.5% water rate increase, which went into effect July 1, 2016. The last water rate increase was in 2008.

Funds collected from water rates serve two primary purposes: provide for the delivery of safe, reliable drinking water (including meeting all state and federally mandated water quality requirements), build reserve funds and pay off loan debt. Reserve funds are necessary in the event of larger repairs that exceed typical, annual maintenance costs.

Funds are necessary to keep operations and maintenance of the plant running effectively and efficiently to treat and deliver potable water 24/7.

Water Treatment Plant Construction Project Financing

The water treatment plant upgrade will cost an estimated \$2.7 million.

Project funding comes from two sources: 80% through a California Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Grant and 20% from a zero interest state loan.

The total amount of funding from the state is \$2.7 million. \$540,000 will be paid through a zero-interest, 30-year loan. DSPUD negotiated the approximately \$2.2 million remaining through a grant from the California Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

Construction

After completing a competitive bid process, DSPUD awarded the construction contract to Manito Construction Inc.

The contractor has moved onsite and has begun work. Construction is expected to be complete in February 2017.

For more information about DSPUD, its projects and services and to view photos, visit www.dspud.com.